

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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R 120719Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8577

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: US, AO, PFOR, US, KTE

SUBJECT: KENYAN CONCERN OVER ANGOLA

1. INTEREST OF KENYAN EMBASSY MOSCOW IN ANGOLA MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES. LATE DECEMBER 19 MR. NZUKI, WHO SAID HE WORKED ON "ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS", CALLED PRESS ATTACHE ON URGENT BASIS TO REQUEST APPOINTMENT FOR HIMSELF AND KENYAN PRESS OFFICER RUKAARIA. UK EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER TOLD PRESS ATTACHE THAT SAME KENYAN OFFICIALS CALLED ON HIM EARLIER SAME DAY AND ASKED ALMOST IDENTICAL QUESTIONS.

2. ONLY TOPIC WAS ANGOLA AND QUESTIONS FOCUSSED ON THREE AREAS: ARE THE SOVIETS LIKELY TO INCREASE THEIR INVOLVEMENT; IF SO, WILL THE SOUTH AFRICANS STEP UP THEIR INVOLVEMENT; AND WILL THE US INTERVENE MILITARILY? RUKAARIA ASKED MOST QUESTIONS, BUT WHEN RESPONDING TO EMBOFF QUESTIONS, NZUKI INVARIABLY SPOKE UP. KENYANS WERE CLEARLY CONCERNED ABOUT SITUATION AND EXPRESSED FEAR THAT CONFLICT WOULD SPLIT OAU AND DIVIDE AFRICAN NATIONS. THEY

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DID NOT SEE SOVIET-DOMINATED GOVERNMENT IN ANGOLA AS THREAT TO BRAZIL OR TO SHIPPING LANES, BUT RATHER SPECULATED THAT

USSR HAD SUPPORTED MPLA AS "INDEPENDENCE" MOVEMENT AND
NOW SAW SOVIET PRESTIGE IN AFRICA TIED TO SUCCESS OF MPLA.

4. NZUKI SAID SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT PARTICULARLY DISTURBING
AND ASKED IF US WOULD CONDEMN THEIR ROLE. TOLD THAT
US OPPOSED ALL OUTSIDE INTERVENTION RUKAARIA AGAIN VOICED
CONCERN OVER CONTINUED SOVIET SHIPMENTS AND POSSIBILITY OF
US MILITARY RESPONSE. KENYANS APPEARED NOT TO HAVE THOUGHT
MUCH ABOUT ANGOLAN SITUATION OUTSIDE AFRICAN CONTEXT, AND
ASKED NUMEROUS QUESTIONS ABOUT EFFECT ON US-USSR RELATIONS IN
SALT AND MBFR TALKS, EFFECT OF US PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS, AND
NATO ATTITUDE TOWARD ANGOLA. STOESSEL

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